

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 290

Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the fair and equitable implementation of the amendments made by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 1998

Mr. LAHOOD submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the fair and equitable implementation of the amendments made by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996.

Whereas the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (referred to in this concurrent resolution as the “Act”) was enacted with unanimous Congressional approval and with the assistance and leadership of a broad coalition of agricultural, industry, and public interest groups;

Whereas the amendments made by the Act are intended to be an important tool in protecting public health, particularly the health and well-being of our Nation’s most valuable resource—our children;

Whereas it is critical that the amendments made by the Act be implemented in a way that accomplishes the intent of Congress while maintaining America's abundant, affordable, and safe food supply, ensuring urban pest control, and not unfairly providing competitive advantages to foreign food suppliers over our domestic producers;

Whereas the amendments made by the Act require the Environmental Protection Agency to develop risk assessment methodologies based on reliable information and to undertake a massive review of all approved pesticide tolerances;

Whereas on August 4, 1997, Environmental Protection Agency published a schedule for reassessment of more than 3,000 tolerances by August 3, 1999, which could include certain classes of products which are extensively utilized;

Whereas the sudden loss of uses and products could both economically cripple a host of agricultural commodities, including corn, soybeans, wheat, rice, cotton, and dozens of fruit and vegetable crops and represent a public health threat to the urban environment; and

Whereas it is critical that the amendments made by the Act be implemented in a fair and equitable manner, and that the protections be implemented while also maintaining our plentiful and affordable food supply: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
 2        *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3                (1) the White House directive to the Environ-  
 4        mental Protection Agency and the Department of  
 5        Agriculture to ensure the implementation of the

1 amendments made by the Act should comport the  
2 following 4 principles:

3 (A) Sound science in protecting public  
4 health;

5 (B) Transparency;

6 (C) Reasonable Transition for agriculture;  
7 and

8 (D) Consultation with the public and other  
9 agencies;

10 (2) the development of risk assessment meth-  
11 odologies, guidelines and protocols for collection of  
12 data under the amendments made by the Act be  
13 based on sound science and devoid of default as-  
14 sumptions in the absence of reliable data;

15 (3) the implementation of the amendments  
16 made by the Act should include transparent proc-  
17 esses with full disclosure of decisions and be subject  
18 to peer and public review;

19 (4) the Environmental Protection Agency  
20 should devote sufficient resources to register new  
21 pesticide products and uses to provide effective sub-  
22 stitutes for pesticides which may be considered high  
23 risk under the amendments made by the Act; and

24 (5) the Environmental Protection Agency  
25 should establish ongoing means for input regarding

1        its implementation decisions from producers, pes-  
2        ticide users, registrants, environmental and public  
3        health groups, consumers, State and local agencies,  
4        Tribal governments, Members of Congress, and  
5        other appropriate Federal agencies.

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